

KIRK IN THE HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

9:00 A.M. GARDEN WORSHIP  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2021



*The only cure for grief is to grieve.*

— Earl Grollman



### This week I was surprised by the kindness of a stranger.

I was headed home after a long commute from work, and I stopped to get gas at a station about two miles from my house. I was thinking of other things, getting home and eating dinner, relaxing, so I must have been more distracted than usual. The next day my husband and I went to run errands; and I realized I didn't have my wallet. I didn't think anything of it at first—maybe I had lost it in the car, or brought it into the house and set it somewhere. When we returned from shopping and began looking in earnest, I realized it was nowhere to be found. Only when prompted

to retrace my steps did I realize I had gone to get gas the night before... and I must have placed my wallet on top of my car after paying. I began to get disheartened, knowing the annoyances ahead of me: canceling the cards, going to the SOS office to get a new license... but my husband Jonathan thoughtfully went to the mailbox, and came back triumphant. A nice stranger must have driven to the house and placed it there, leaving a note that said, "I hope everything is still in there. I found it in the middle of the road. Have a good weekend!" Everything was still there. How surprising that a stranger would anonymously be so kind and not take advantage of the situation.



I am so grateful this happened as I begin fellowshiping with members who live in the Fox Run Retirement Center, or "Kirk West." I can tell they offer one another this kind of kindness on a daily basis, without recognition or expectation of reward. There is an awareness that all of them have gone through *something*; whether it is a loss of a spouse, a child, or other close family member; loss of ability and freedom due to illness and aging; or the sense of loss that comes from feeling you no longer have a purpose after leaving the workforce. Because everyone has that vulnerability, they are so good at empathizing with one another, and supporting one another any way they can. I see it in their small groups as they share life together. I saw it in the joy they had returning to worship last week in a communal way so that they could lift one another up with kind words and through their corporate singing.

It is such a gift to be able to come alongside this community and support them in the way they minister to one another. Let us all be inspired to do small (or large!) acts of kindness for one another, without expectation of reward, and even without any acknowledgement. Let us surprise one another with goodness and love.



Pastor Jasmine

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m. Garden Service

*How lonely sits the city...* — **Lamentations 1:1**

## GATHERING

### CARILLON

### INTROIT

**Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty**

*Lobe den Herren*

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;  
join me in glad adoration!

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OUR FAITH IN ACTION

75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign

### ANTHEM

**Come Dwell in Solomon's Walls**

*Z. Randall Stroope*

When the final timber lay 'gainst the measure stones,  
with the doorposts in their place overlaid with gold,  
the Lord appeared to Solomon, blessing all the house,  
also the temple of the ark of God, pure and whole.

Come dwell in Solomon's walls.

Come and dwell in the house of the Lord  
where the humble bow down, seeking wisdom and strength,  
for the Lord dwells within and heals their land.

Come dwell in Solomon's walls.

Come and dwell in the house of the Lord  
where wisdom and righteousness, justice and holiness,  
join at the feet of God.

When the people of the house kneel and humbly pray,  
when they turn from dark to light and your will obey,  
O Lord of Heaven and Lord of Earth, show favor on this house,  
and heal, restore, forgive, and bless, Lord, we pray.

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

*from Psalm 95:1-2, 6*

Come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**Come all you people, come and praise your Maker.**

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.

**Come all you people, come and praise your Maker.**

Come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

**Come all you people, come and praise your Maker.**

\* SONGS OF GATHERING

**Come All You People**

*Uyai Mose*

**Come all you people, come and praise your Maker;  
come all you people, come and praise your Maker;  
come all you people, come and praise your Maker;  
come now and worship the Lord.**

**Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

*Hymn to Joy*

**Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.**

\* CALL TO CONFESSION

Even though we continually turn away from God,  
the Lord is eager to forgive.  
Trusting in the promise of grace,  
let us confess our sin.

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*from Luke 16 and Psalm 79:9*

**Gracious God, you know our sin:  
We have squandered the gifts you have given us.  
We have failed to forgive our debtors  
as you have forgiven us.  
We have been unfaithful and dishonest  
in small things and great things alike.  
We are shrewd in seeking wealth  
and foolish in following your way.**  
  
**Forgive our sins, O Lord, for your name's sake.  
Make us faithful stewards of the grace you have given  
and generous in forgiving others;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\* KYRIE ELEISON

*Choir:*

*Land of Rest*

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Congregation:*

**Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.**

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news!

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our  
Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this  
grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the  
glory of God.

Friends, believe the good news!

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

**\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!  
My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.**

**WORD WITH CHILDREN**

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

*Sawyer Ann Perusse*

**CHORAL ORISON**

*Liebster Jesu*

Dearest Jesus, we are here,  
gladly Your command obeying.  
With this child we now draw near  
in response to Your own saying  
that to You it shall be given  
as a child and heir of heaven.

**PRESENTATION**

**\* THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**THE BAPTISM**

**WELCOME OF THE NEWLY BAPTIZED**

**With joy and thanksgiving  
we welcome you into Christ's church  
to share with us in his ministry,  
for we are all one in Christ.**

CHILDREN ARE DISMISSED *for Sunday School near the garden.*

## PRAYER

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The congregation sins with the choir:*

**God of grace in this place, hear now our prayer.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.  
Amen.**

## WORD

### CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

### SCRIPTURE READING

**Lamentations 1:1-7**

### SERMON

**The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.  
Jerusalem the Mourner**

Dr. Nate Phillips

## SENDING

### \* CLOSING HYMN

**Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

*Faithfulness*

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
there is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see.  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see.  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**



\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

*Sicilian Mariners*

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing;

fill our hearts with joy and peace;

let us each thy love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.

O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.

CARILLON

*Garden worshippers are encouraged to drop off giving envelopes in the baskets located at the Celtic Cross near the exit as you depart.*

About today's music

In today's liturgy and music, you will note the juxtaposition of joy and praise in Psalm 145 with the sadness and weeping of the Lamentations 1 passage. As we experience both the valleys and the mountain tops in our own personal and corporate lives, we are assured of God's faithfulness.

As we begin our preparations for celebrating the Kirk's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2022, including important stewardship opportunities, the Chancel Choir presents "Come Dwell in Solomon's Walls." Some say Solomon's temple was arguably the most magnificent structure ever built in the history of humankind. This anthem invites the congregation to come and dwell in a place where wisdom and righteousness, and justice and holiness join at the feet of God.

As we prepare to hear the Word proclaimed from Lamentations, we are guided by "There Is a Balm in Gilead." Mark Hayes's arrangement of the spiritual "There Is a Balm in Gilead" answers the question posed in Jeremiah 8:22, "Is there no balm in Gilead?"

As our worship concludes, elements of joy, praise, weeping, and lament are woven together in "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" with the assurance that God will provide "strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow."

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*Lord, Have Mercy – music arr. Richard Proulx © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.*

*Come Dwell in Solomon's Walls – Z. Randall Stroope © 2006 Birnamwood Publications*

*God of Grace – Paul Andress © 2006 Augsburg Fortress*

*There Is a Balm in Gilead – arr. Mark Hayes © 1998 Alfred Music Publishing Co., Inc.*

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness – Text by Thomas O. Chisholm and music by William Marion Runyan, © 1923, renewed 1951 Hope Publishing Company.*

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If you are in need of prayer

You may submit prayer requests online at [kirkinthehills.org](http://kirkinthehills.org) under Connect/Prayer.



**Stephen Ministers** are available for personal, confidential prayer in the Upper East Garden immediately following the Garden Service each Sunday. If you or someone you know is in need outside of the Garden Service, please contact Nancy Lau at 248-835-6691.

**The flowers on the altar in the sanctuary** are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Monte Clark and their daughter, Shelly, by Charlotte Clark, their sons and families.

From left to right: Rev. Kelsey Sorge, Rev. Dr. Nate Phillips, Rev. Angela Ryo, Rev. Edwin Estevez



*We envision a world where every heart experiences God's transforming love.*



**Membership**

*Stephanie Sheak*

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**Serve**

*Julie Walker*

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**Congregational Care**

*Rev. Angela Ryo*

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**Choirs and Music Events**

*Nicole Joseph*

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**Baptisms, Memorials, Weddings**

*Jen Morris*

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**Small Groups**

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**Give**

*Karen Bowman*

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**Questions/Information**

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**Church Leadership**

*Bob Beck/Clerk of Session*

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